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**From:** This Week @ EPA [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7A2F56A248E647F0BD8A89E90EC7AFBC-EPA NEWS]  
**Sent:** 8/19/2019 6:05:33 PM  
**To:** This Week @ EPA [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7a2f56a248e647f0bd8a89e90ec7afbc-EPA News]  
**Subject:** This Week @ EPA - August 19, 2019



August 19, 2019

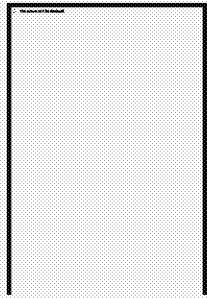
Taken by Paymon Danesh of Region 5 in

[Senior Leadership Update](#) | [Hot Topics](#) | [ELMS Update](#) | [Key Dates](#) | [Video Spotlight](#) | [Health & Wellness](#) | [IT Corner](#)

## Senior Leadership Update

### Administrator Wheeler visited Monaca, Pennsylvania with President Trump

Last week Administrator Wheeler visited the new Pennsylvania Shell ethylene cracker plant in Monaca, Pennsylvania with President Trump and Energy Secretary Rick Perry. To learn more about this visit, please read the [press release](#).



## Hot Topics

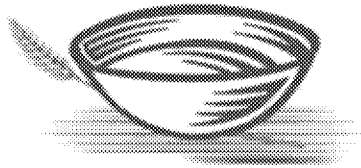
### Feds Feed Families final week!

The Feds Feed Families (FFF) Campaign is in its last week; it ends on Friday, August 23. If you need a bit of motivation on why it is important to contribute to FFF, please watch the [new video](#) with Simona Foster, EPA's Feds Feed Families national coordinator.

Since 2009, when the Feds Feed Families annual campaign began, federal employees like you have contributed over 80 million pounds of food. The food collected through the campaign is distributed to food banks and pantries across the country. Traditionally these organizations see a decrease in donations and an increase in need during the summer months. The Feds Feed Families annual campaigns run during the summer to help food banks and pantries during the time of year in which they most need assistance.

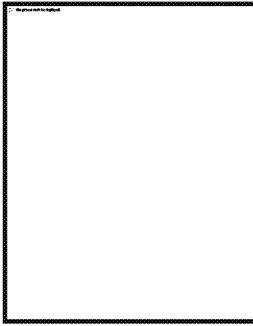
Please visit the [FFF intranet site](#) for additional information on the campaign.

Click on the image below to see Simona Foster, EPA's FFF national coordinator, talking about how important it is to give to FFF.



feds **feed** families

*"Do Right Feed Everyone"*



Total f

## Summer Snapshots 2019 by EPA employees

Please enjoy this slideshow of photographs taken by EPA employees across all regions. Here at EPA, we love to showcase the and we are proud to share this presentation with you all!

The next photography submission session will begin in mid-September. Look at future issues of This Week @ EPA for the details.

*Note: The PowerPoint might take a minute to open and load. To run the presentation automatically, on the ribbon across the top click on "Beginning."*

**EPA releases FY2018 Progress Report showing continued commitment to Environmental Justice**

On August 13th, EPA released its [Environmental Justice FY2018 Progress Report](#), required by E.O. 12898. The report shows how

certainty to our federal, states, tribal and local partners; certainty in EPA programs; and certainty in how we communicate risk. The report describes EPA efforts to improve environmental and public health protections for low-income, minority, indigenous, and disadvantaged communities that are disproportionately located on or near contaminated lands or be impacted by environmental hazards.

The report describes EPA efforts to remediate Superfund sites, and return these sites to productive use to communities, to improve water infrastructure, to make critical investments to improve the nation's water infrastructure. It also describes actions to protect children from lead exposure, to support for community-driven projects, and to integrate environmental justice into enforcement and science.

Please visit [EPA's Environmental Justice Program site](#) for more information.

## **EPA Plans to Award More Than \$7.5 Million to Improve Water Quality in the Gulf of Mexico**





Last week, EPA announced that it anticipates awarding more than \$7.5 million in Farmer to Farmer Cooperative Agreements to fund water quality, habitat, and environmental education in the Gulf of Mexico watershed.

This Gulf of Mexico Program initiative promotes innovative, market-based solutions for monitoring and improving water quality within the agricultural economy.

Congratulations to the seven recipients!

- B.F. Smith Foundation – \$1,149,813 (Mississippi)
- Iowa Dept. of Agriculture and Land Stewardship – \$1,150,000 (Iowa)
- Mississippi State University – \$1,088,025 (Mississippi)
- Practical Farmers of Iowa – \$935,788 (Iowa)
- Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies – \$1,000,000 (Florida)
- University of Iowa – \$1,064,926 (Iowa)
- Winrock International – \$1,150,000 (Arkansas)

Since 2018, approximately \$9.5 million has been awarded through EPA's Farmer to Farmer Cooperative Agreements.

Read the [press release](#) and learn more about the Gulf of Mexico Program [here](#).

### **Reminder for mandatory training: Information Security and Privacy Awareness Training**

The FY19 Information Security and Privacy Awareness Training course provides four modules with dynamic content on information security and a modules test. ***Failure to complete this mandatory course by September 30 will result in loss of EPA network access.***



Module 1: Information Security and Privacy Basics

Module 2: Securing Information

Module 3: Risks, Threats, and Countermeasures

Module 4: Incident Response and Reporting

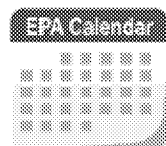
Course objectives:

- Develop and demonstrate foundational-level knowledge of cybersecurity;
- Discuss your role in the EPA cybersecurity strategy;
- Employ best practices to protect privacy and safeguard information, including Controlled Unclassified Information;
- Recognize cyber threats to information systems;
- Identify and report potential cybersecurity and privacy incidents promptly.

Visit [EPA University](#) for more information on FY19 mandatory courses, and log into [FedTalent](#) to take this course prior to the Sept

**Questions?** Please contact your local training officer if you have any problems accessing or completing your courses. For technical contact the Department of the Interior's Customer Support Center (they manage the support for FedTalent) at 1-888-367-1622 or [HRMS\\_Helpdesk@ios.doi.gov](mailto:HRMS_Helpdesk@ios.doi.gov)

## Key Dates



Click on each event below to get more details.

Click on the "Add to Calendar" button to add an event to your Outlook calendar.

If you see a log-in screen, please click on your EPA email, or if prompted, enter your email and network password.

**This Week:**

**Aug. 23:** [Last day of the Feds Feed Families campaign!](#)

ADD TO CALENDAR

**Coming soon:**

**Aug. 27:** [PeoplePlus early closeout - all corrected timecards due](#)

ADD TO CALENDAR

**Aug. 29:** [PeoplePlus early closeout – all timecards submitted & approved](#)

ADD TO CALENDAR

**Sept. 5:** [ELMS Overview webinar](#)

ADD TO CALENDAR

**September 30:** [Mandatory Training deadline!](#)

ADD TO CALENDAR

## Video Sp

### [Strategic Watershed Awareness](#) [Gulf Guardian Youth Environme](#)

Strategic Watershed Awareness and Monitoring is a program designed to broaden understanding of water quality, and how citizens impact the two. Mobilize school students on watersheds and enlist students to monitor specific, local waterways. Staff train participants on shoreline/stream bank conditions, and track changes in SWAMP, students have the opportunity to identify a problem and develop a solution that can make a positive impact on local economy and natural resources.



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It's that time of year again. EPA staff must complete 2019 mandatory training requirements by September 30. Visit [EPA University](#) to review the list of FY19 mandatory training courses.

## Health & Wellness

**Mind your mental health**

## IT Corner

**OMS is on a mission to support you**



According to the [National Alliance on Mental Illness \(Exit\)](#), one in five American adults experience mental illness annually. Examples of common mental illnesses include [depression](#) and [anxiety disorders](#). To help maintain your mental health and manage any mental illness symptoms, here are some helpful tips:

- Make [eating a balanced diet](#), [getting enough sleep](#), and [exercising regularly](#) part of your lifestyle.
- [Manage stress](#) by planning ahead, avoiding stressful situations, and taking time to rest and relax.
- Identify any workplace or home situations that trigger stress for you.
- Work with your personal physician, therapist, or other mental health professional to determine the cause(s) of your mental illness symptoms and brainstorm healthy ways to address them.
- Be prepared to address your mental illness symptoms by creating a plan of action.
- Ask trusted family members or friends to help you monitor your mental health.

For more information including additional resources for managers, visit the [Mental Health page](#) on the Office of Mission Support's Safety and Sustainability Division intranet site.

recently updated the [CX Website](#) to reflect all support functions, which help increase employee support of EPA's mission. Check out the [CX Website](#) and working hard to improve your daily work life!

#### Learn More:

- Visit the [Customer Experience Awards](#) to see recent CX Award Winners!
- Join a [CX Professional Community of Practice](#) to learn more about CX.
- Learn how OMS collects "customer feedback points" and desired improvements with the [Customer Experience Survey](#).
- Visit the [CX Action Tracker](#) to review responses by the OMS Subject Matter Experts (User ID & Password).

Let us know your experience at [customer.experience@epa.gov](#)

We would love to hear your feedback about this newsletter. Please contact us at: [internalcomms@epa.gov](mailto:internalcomms@epa.gov) | <http://intranet.epa.gov/internalcomms>  
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